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21 July 1960

# CURRENT INTELLIGENCE WEEKLY SUMMARY

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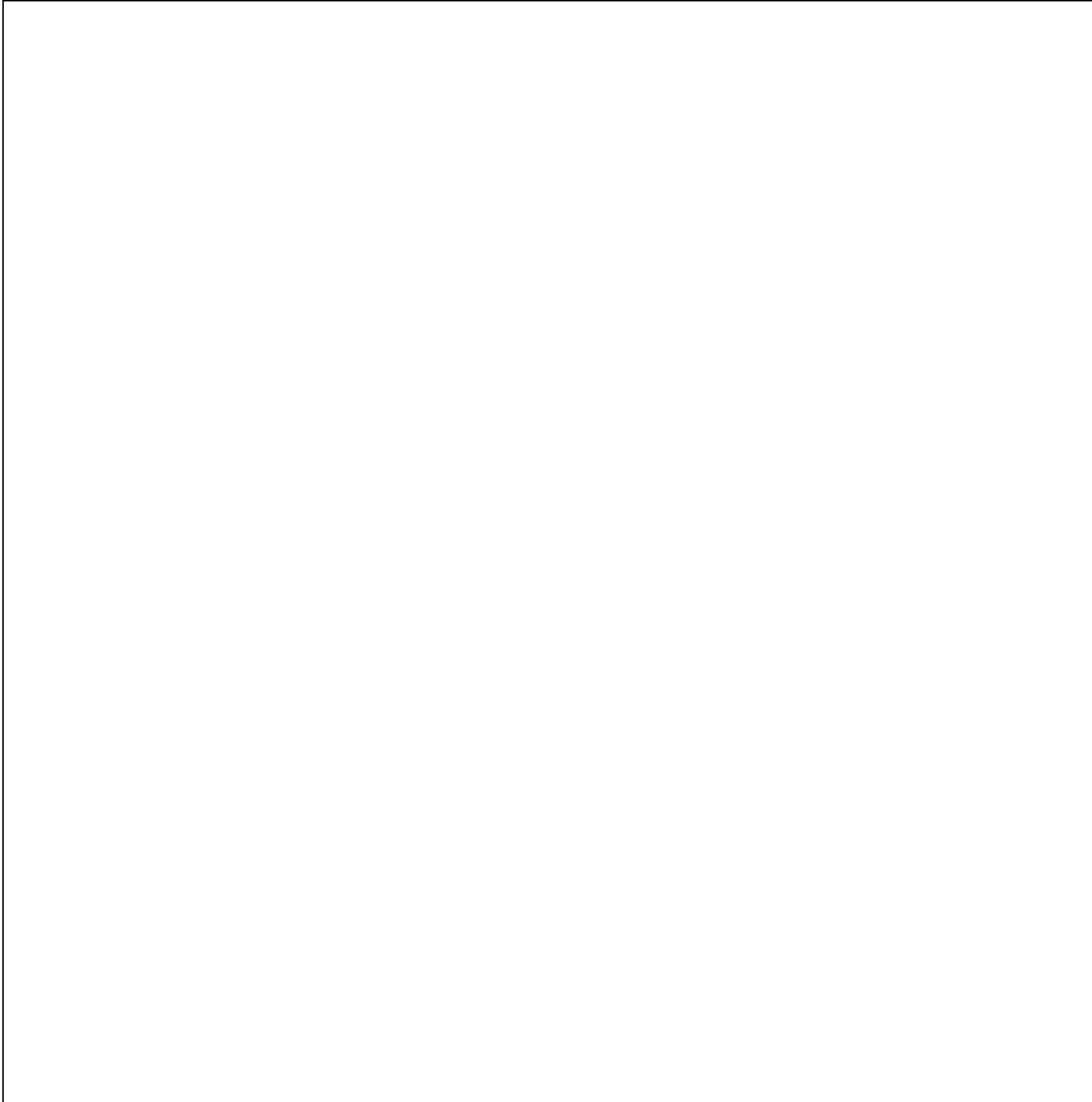
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THE WEEK IN BRIEF

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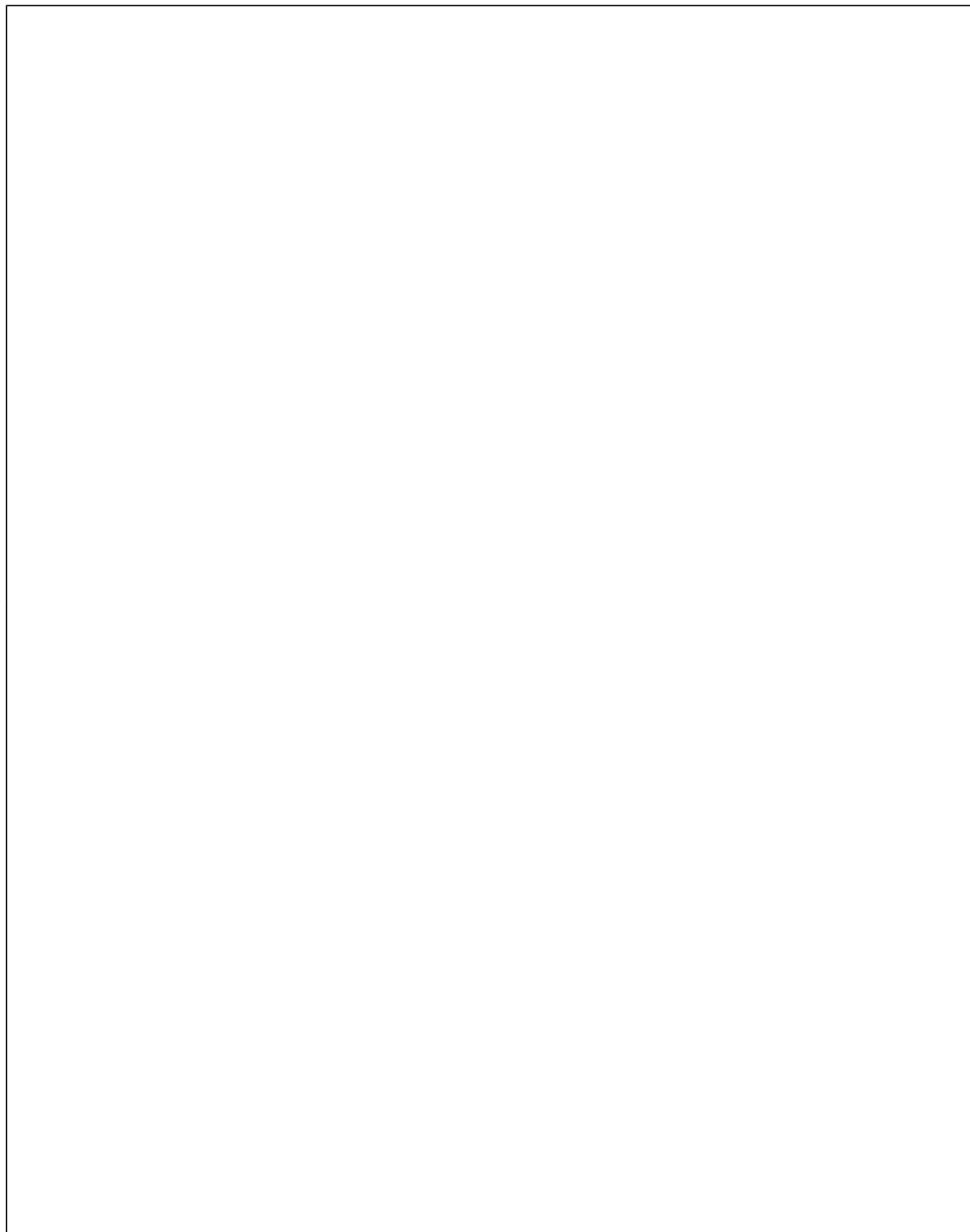
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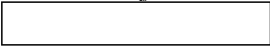
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THE ITALIAN POLITICAL SITUATION . . . . . Page 12

Difficulties encountered in the negotiations for replacing the Tambroni cabinet suggest that the new government will leave unresolved the right-left stalemate which has almost paralyzed effective government in Italy. The Christian Democrats are principally concerned with removing the stigma of neo-Fascist parliamentary support that was Premier Tambroni's main difficulty and thus improving their prospects in the nationwide local elections scheduled for October. The three small center parties promised their parliamentary support to prevent Communist exploitation of the anti-Fascist issue but only to prevent polarization of the Italian political situation.



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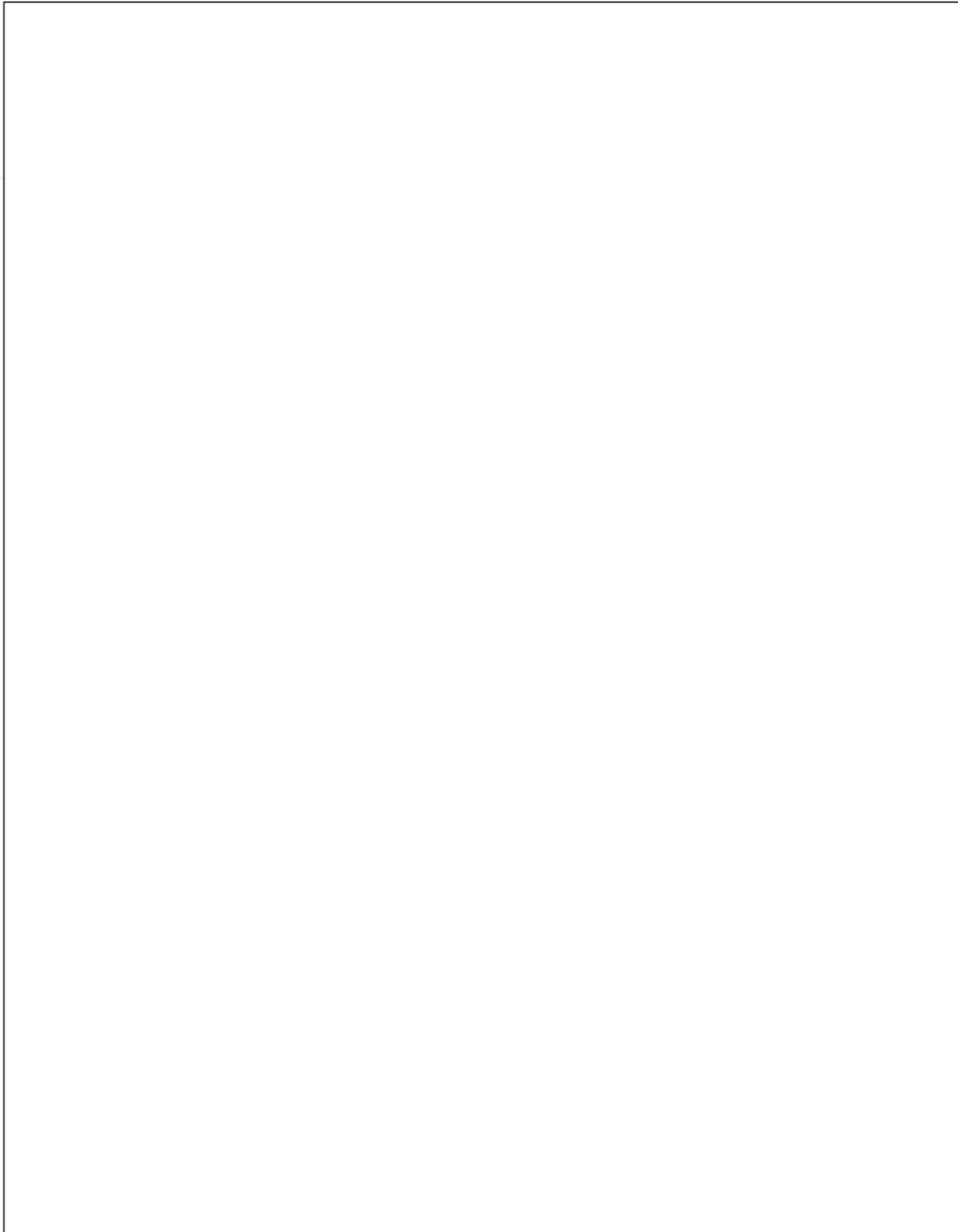
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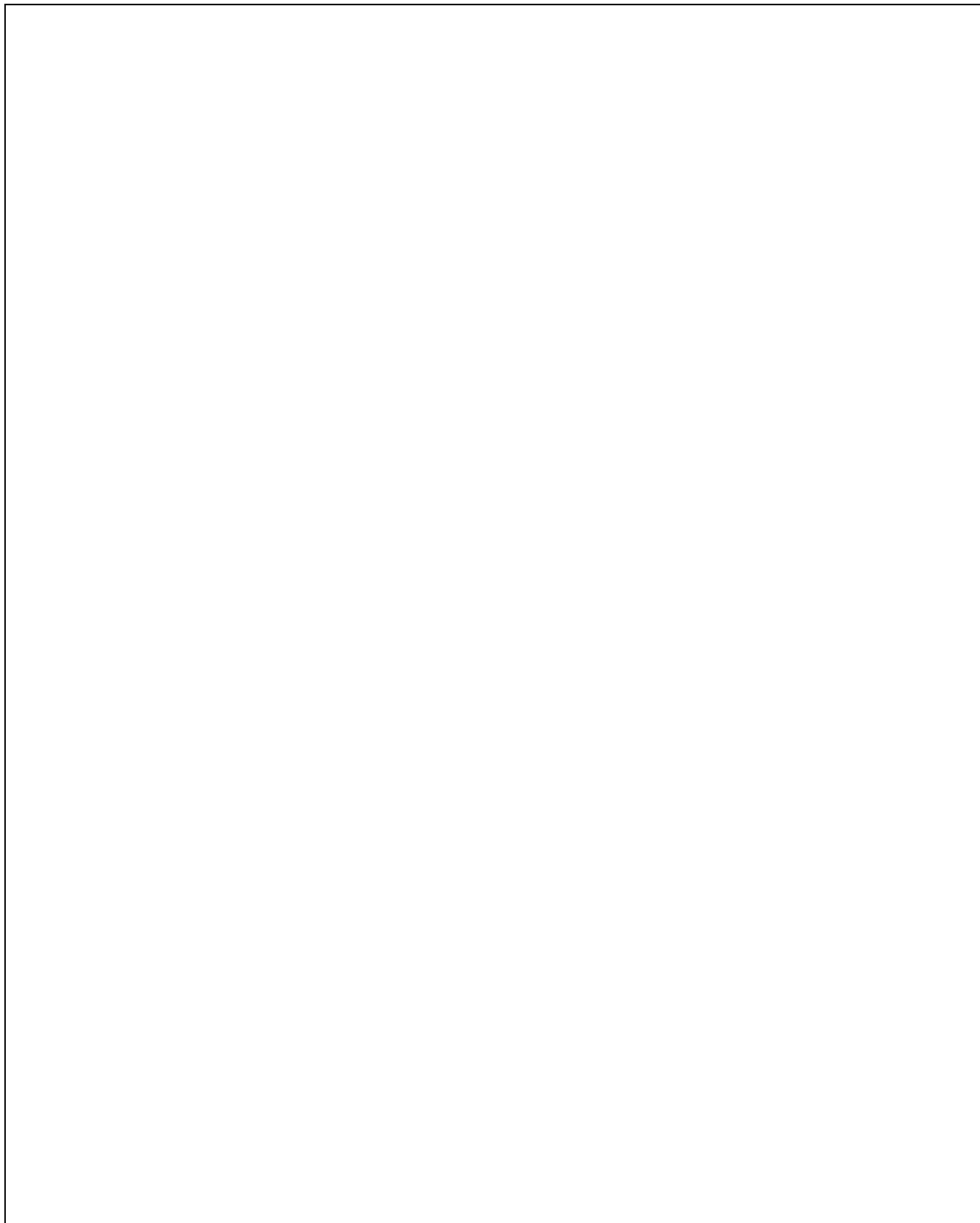
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ITALIAN POLITICAL SITUATION

Difficulties encountered in the negotiations for replacing the Tambroni cabinet suggest that the new government will leave unresolved the right-left stalemate which has almost paralyzed effective government in Italy. The Christian Democrats are principally concerned with removing the stigma of neo-Fascist parliamentary support that was Premier Tambroni's main difficulty and thus improving their prospects in the nationwide local elections scheduled for October. The three small center parties promised their parliamentary support to prevent Communist exploitation of the anti-Fascist issue but only to prevent polarization of the Italian political situation.

Following the widespread anti-Fascist rioting from 28 June to 10 July, most elements in the Christian Democratic party agreed that the Tambroni government had to be replaced. The disturbances also convinced the three small center parties --the Liberals, Democratic Socialists, and Republicans--that they must for the time being provide parliamentary support for an alternative government. They have not overcome, however, the basic ideological differences which kept them from agreeing on a government during the two-month crisis which preceded Tambroni's decision to depend on neo-Fascist support. Tambroni himself had shown reluctance to resign, and President Gronchi had also resisted a change of premier.

The Democratic Socialists and Republicans look with favor on a new all-Christian Democratic cabinet, preferably headed by former Premier Fanfani, and Socialist party leader Nenni has indicated he would not vote against it. Nevertheless, the probability that ex-Premier Scelba would return to his old post as minister of interior was probably displeasing to these parties. Scelba has consistently urged re-establishment of a cabinet made up of all four center parties, although in previous quadripartite cabinets important legislation was impeded by dissension between Democratic Socialists and Liberals.

The conservative Liberal party appears to have consented to support a new Christian Democratic cabinet only after an intraparty struggle. Some of its members object to Fanfani as a leader of the Christian Democratic left wing and to the possibility of Nenni Socialist support. All the center parties seem to favor the continuance of former Premier Segni as foreign affairs minister.

The Communists, anxious to avoid isolation, have promised to support a government which would respect the constitution but are already laying the groundwork for attacking the new regime. Having now lost through Tambroni's resignation the popular issue of resistance to Fascism, they may turn to demonstrating against such targets as NATO bases in Italy.

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